

## WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

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By Fax to (800) 967-0739 and by Regular Mail

Dr. Jane Summerson  
EIS Document Manager (M/S 010)  
Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
P. O. Box 30307  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89036-0307

Re: Supplement to the Draft EIS/Yucca Mountain

Dear Dr. Summerson:

This public comment is submitted on behalf of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, an environmental organization in the metropolitan St. Louis area with approximately 400 members. Our mission is to study, appreciate and conserve wildlife and habitat.


1 We urge you to analyze the hazards of transporting the nuclear waste that would potentially be stored at Yucca Mountain. The proposed transportation on trains poses dangers to people and wildlife alike, because train accidents do happen. Because St. Louis is a likely transit point, our organization is concerned about what would happen to wildlife and people in our area if there were a derailment or other problem. Recently, a train derailed in the heart of a St. Louis suburb, spilling tons of coal and blocking traffic for days. Imagine the consequences if the cargo had been nuclear waste. In addition, the May 15 "runaway train" story out of Ohio is a further reminder that transporting nuclear waste by train carries unacceptable risks.

2 We understand that the DOE is considering aging the nuclear fuel in storage casks for up to 50 years before placing it in the underground repository. We urge you to consider the ALTERNATIVE of leaving the spent fuel at the existing reactor site. Perhaps by the time that shipment would become necessary, the fuel would be less dangerous and thus transportation would pose fewer threats to people and wildlife.

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Thank you for considering our comments.

Very truly yours,



Yvonne Homeyer, Conservation Chairperson  
Webster Groves Nature Study Society

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